



STATE OF WASHINGTON
ENERGY FACILITY SITE EVALUATION COUNCIL
PO Box 43172 • Olympia, Washington 98504-3172

September 17, 2004

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of Public Comment Period - September 17, 2004 to November 1, 2004

Notice of Public Hearing – October 28, 2004, Everson, Washington

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF A PRELIMINARY DETERMINATION
BY THE ENERGY FACILITY SITE EVALUATION COUNCIL
TO APPROVE NOC/PSD EFSEC/2001-02, AMENDMENT 1
FOR THE SUMAS ENERGY 2 GENERATION FACILITY,
SUMAS, WASHINGTON**

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

In August 2002 the Governor of Washington State approved the construction and operation of the Sumas Energy 2 Generation Facility (SE2GF), an electrical generating facility located in Sumas, Washington. The Notice of Construction/Prevention of Significant Deterioration (NOC/PSD) air emissions permit for this project became effective on April 17, 2003.

Under Condition 22 of the permit, Sumas Energy 2, Inc., (SE2) must initiate construction of the project within eighteen months of the final and effective date of the permit. SE2 has indicated that it will not commence construction of SE2GF until after acquiring approval from the Canadian National Energy Board (NEB) to construct a transmission line that would connect SE2GF to the BC Hydro Clayburn substation in Abbotsford, British Columbia. SE2 believes it is unlikely that NEB approval will be obtained prior to the construction-initiation deadline of this PSD permit. Consequently, SE2 is requesting amendment to PSD/NOC Permit No. EFSEC/2001-02 allowing an eighteen month extension of the construction-initiation deadline (to April 17, 2006).

The SE2GF would be a 660 megawatt (MW) combined-cycle facility using natural gas as the only fuel source for the combustion turbines. The facility design includes two separate but identical combustion turbines, one steam turbine, two generators and two heat recovery steam generators (HRSG). Each HRSG would include a duct burner. The nominal capacity of each combustion and steam turbine set would be 334.5 MW yielding a total nominal plant capacity of 669 MW.

PRELIMINARY DETERMINATION:

The Council has been delegated the authority under Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Title 40 Part 52 to issue permits under the Prevention of Significant Deterioration program. Federal regulation 40 CFR 52.21(r)(2) authorizes EFSEC to grant PSD permit extensions. The Council has made a preliminary determination that the amended approval and Project satisfies Washington state and federal permitting requirements by using BACT for all pollutants regulated under state and federal law. Utilization of BACT minimizes adverse impacts to air quality and air quality related values from the plant's emissions.

All requirements for PSD and New Source Review are satisfied, and if the draft permit amendment were approved, the emission units would comply with all applicable federal and Washington state new source performance standards, in accordance with the provisions of Chapters 463-39, 173-400, and 173-460 of the Washington Administrative Code (WAC) and the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), 40 CFR Parts 52.21 and 60. Allowable emissions from the SE2GF, in conjunction with all other applicable emission increases or reductions (including secondary emissions) would not cause or contribute to violation of any ambient air quality standard or any applicable maximum allowable increase over the baseline concentration in any area.

There would be no significant impacts resulting from pollutant deposition on soils and vegetation in Class I areas. It is very unlikely that the proposed emissions would cause significant degradation of regional visibility, or impairment of visibility in any Class I area. The SE2GF Project is unlikely to have a significant impact on vegetation, soil, and aquatic resources in Class I or Class II areas.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

This notice serves as the Council's official notification that the draft NOC/PSD permit amendment has been issued, and is available for public inspection and comment. It also serves as notice that members of the public and interested parties have an opportunity to submit written comments to the Council on the draft NOC/PSD permit. A final determination on this permit amendment will not be made until after the end of the public comment period, and all comments received pursuant to this notice have been considered.

The draft approval of NOC/PSD No. EFSEC/2001-02, Amendment 1, and the corresponding Technical Support Document are available for review during the public comment period at the following local libraries and Washington State offices:

Whatcom County Library System:

- Lynden Branch: 216 - 4th Street, Lynden, WA 98264, 360-354-4883;
- Everson Branch: 104 Kirsch Drive, Everson, WA 98247, 360-966-5100;
- Ferndale Branch: 2222 Main Street, Ferndale WA 98248, 360-384-3647;
- Sumas Branch: 451 - 2nd Street, Sumas, WA 98295. 360-988-2501.

City of Bellingham Public Library: 210 Central Ave, Bellingham, WA 98225, 360-676-6860.

In Abbotsford, British Columbia:

- MSA Centennial Library, 33660 South Fraser Way, Abbotsford, BC V2S 2B9, Canada, 604-853-1753;
- Clearbrook Library, 32320 George Ferguson Way, Abbotsford, BC V2T 6N4, Canada, 604-859-7814.

In Olympia, Washington:

- Washington Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council: 925 Plum Street SE, Building 4, Olympia, Washington 98504-3172, (360) 956-2121; www.efsec.wa.gov;
- Washington State Library, Joel M. Pritchard Library: 6880 Capital Boulevard South, Olympia, Washington 98501-5513;
- Washington State Department of Ecology: 300 Desmond Drive, Lacey, Washington. (Please contact Bernard Brady at (360) 407-6803).

Copies will also be mailed to interested persons or agencies upon request made to the EFSEC office by calling (360) 956-2121, or by e-mail to efsec@ep.cted.wa.gov.

The public comment period will extend from September 17 through November 1, 2004. Interested persons may review the documents and submit written comments regarding the proposed permit to: Allen Fiksdal, EFSEC, PO Box 43172, Olympia, WA 98504-3172, or by e-mail to efsec@ep.cted.wa.gov. **To be considered, written comments must be received in the EFSEC office no later than 5 p.m., November 1, 2004.** EFSEC requests that comments not be sent by fax. EFSEC will also accept written comments submitted in person at the October 28, 2004, Public Hearing (see below).

All persons, including the applicant, who believe any condition of this draft permit is inappropriate must raise all reasonably ascertainable issues and submit all reasonably available arguments supporting their position in writing by the end of the comment period. Any supporting materials which are submitted must be included in full and may not be incorporated by reference, unless they are already part of the administrative record for this proposed approval or are generally available reference material.

PUBLIC HEARING:

A public hearing on this matter will be held as follows:

**October 28, 2004: Starting at 7:00 p.m.,
Nooksack Valley High School,
3326 East Badger Rd, Everson, WA, 98247**

The hearing will be conducted in accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act, Chapter 34.05 Revised Code of Washington. EFSEC anticipates a large number of participants at the above meeting. In the event that there is not time to hear from all those who wish to comment orally on the Draft NOC/PSD Permit Amendment, public citizens interested in commenting are encouraged to bring written versions of their comments for submittal to EFSEC staff at the October 28, 2004 hearing.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

More specific information about the project is available from EFSEC's office or from reviewing the NOC/PSD permit documents at the public libraries in Olympia, Whatcom County, and Abbotsford B.C., listed above. Information regarding the project is also on EFSEC's Internet site at: <http://www.efsec.wa.gov>.

Please bring this Notice to the attention of persons who you know would be interested in this matter.

A copy of the Council's final determination regarding the proposed permit will be filed for inspection at the locations above. Within 30 calendar days after the final decision has been issued, any person who commented on the draft approval may petition the EPA Administrator, under 40 CFR 124.19, to review any condition of the decision. Any person who failed to file comments or failed to participate in the public hearing on the draft may petition for administrative review only to the extent of the changes from the draft to the final approved decision.

For more information, or if you have special accommodation needs, contact Irina Makarow at 360/956-2047 (Voice) or 360/586-4224 (TDD).

WASHINGTON ENERGY FACILITY SITE EVALUATION COUNCIL

Dated in Olympia, Washington, this 17th day of September, 2004.

By: Allen J. Fiksdal, EFSEC Manager
PO Box 43172
Olympia, Washington 98504-3172